













LAWRENCE J. GUTTER Collection of Chicagoana

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CHICAGO LITERARY CLUB

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN WELLBORN ROOT

DIED JANUARY 15, 1891

A T the regular meeting of the Chicago Literary Club, held February 16, 1891, the accompanying report of a Committee appointed to prepare a tribute of respect to the memory of our late fellow-member, John Welleorn Root, was read and adopted.

Frederick W. Gookin,

Recording Secretary.



IN the death of John Wellborn Root the Literary Club has lost a valued member and Chicago has lost a gifted man.

Everybody knew him as an architect and artist. Our city is full of his work; his great buildings tower above our business streets, monuments of the strength and breadth of his genius; and quiet homes along our residence streets bear witness to his grace and refinement. All of us and all of the members of his chosen profession knew his ability as a But the full scope and range of his versatile nature were less well known. Only a few knew him as a musician, and yet he had rare musical gifts. Many surpassed him in mere brilliance of execution; but he had few equals in interpreting the spirit of the great composers. To hear him play from memory Mendelssohn's "Songs Without Words" was a revelation. It stirred the deepest emotions.

He died at the age of 41, young even for his years, doing the best work of his life, and giving promise of still greater development; like all true artists, dissatisfied with what he had accomplished, and hoping yet to do something great.

As our fellow member and our friend has gone from us, and we shall never see another design from his hand, it is a pleasure to remember that this home of our club is all his work, the building, which was perhaps his most artistic creation, and the decoration and arrangement of these rooms, to which he gave much loving thought and much of his precious time.

We shall remember him not only as a great architect and a versatile genius; but as a modest gentleman, a delightful companion, and a faithful friend.

BRYAN LATHROP.
WILLIAM L. B. JENNEY,
IRVING K. POND.

Committee.









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